

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring personnel operating at a workplaces_s within a confined space, the method comprising:
 providing a plurality of selectively configurable mobile workplace modules_s comprising a video registration device producing video data, an audio interface for emitting and receiving audio data and a gas sensor to produce gas sensor data;
 mounting the workplace modules_s at least partially within the confined space;
 providing a mobile monitoring unit outside the confined space, the monitoring unit comprising a display for displaying video data from the workplace modules_s, an audio interface for emitting and receiving audio data and a gas data receiver for receiving gas sensor data;
 connecting the workplace modules_s to the monitoring unit for data transmission therebetween; and
 monitoring at the monitoring unit the operation of personnel at the workplaces_s.
2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the-a workplace module comprises a presence detector and the method further comprises detecting the presence of a person at the workplace.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the presence detector comprises a workplace access registration device and the method further comprises registering the entry and exit of personnel into the confined space.
4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2 or claim 3, wherein the presence detector comprises an identification device and the method further comprises identifying the-a person at the-a workplace and providing the identity to the monitoring unit.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~, further comprising providing a recording device and recording data transmitted to the monitoring unit.
6. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~, further comprising comparing gas sensor data with predefined gas data limits and generating a warning in the event that the gas data limits are exceeded.
7. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~, wherein the gas sensor is provided at ~~the-a first~~ workplace.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~, wherein the video registration device is controllable from the mobile monitoring unit and the method further includes controlling the video registration device to zoom, pan or tilt.
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled) .
12. (Canceled) .
13. (Canceled)
14. (Currently amended) A safety monitoring system for monitoring of a workplaces within a confined space, comprising:
a plurality of selectively configurable mobile workplace modules comprising a video registration device producing video data, an audio interface for emitting and receiving audio data and a gas sensor producing gas sensor data; and

a mobile monitoring unit selectively connectable to the workplace modules_s for data transmission between the workplace modules_s and the monitoring unit, the monitoring unit comprising a display for displaying video data from the workplace modules_s, an audio interface for emitting and receiving audio data and a gas data monitor for the gas sensor data.

15. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to claim 14, wherein the workplace modules further comprises a presence detector for detecting the presence of a person at the_a workplace.
16. (Original) The safety monitoring system according to claim 15, wherein the presence detector comprises a workplace access registration device for registering the entry and exit of personnel into the workplace.
17. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~claim 15 or~~ claim 16, wherein the presence detector provides identification data to the monitoring unit, identifying the person at the workplace.
18. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~claim 16 or~~ ~~claim 17~~, wherein the ~~monitoring~~_{workplace} modules ~~haves~~ an active state and a passive state, and the presence detector is active to cause transition of the ~~monitoring~~_{workplace} modules from the passive state to the active state in response to the detection of a person at the workplace.
19. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~any of claims~~ 14 ~~to~~ 18, wherein the monitoring unit further comprises a recording device for recording data transmitted to the monitoring unit.
20. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~any of claims~~ 14 ~~to~~ 19, wherein the gas data monitor compares gas sensor data with predefined gas data limits and generates a warning in the event that the gas data limits are exceeded.

21. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~any of claims 14 to 20~~, wherein the gas sensor is a direct gas sensor for location at ~~the a~~ workplace.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~any of claims 14 to 22~~, further comprising a mobile umbilical cable for connecting the workplace modules~~s~~ to the monitoring unit.

24. (Original) The safety monitoring system according to claim 23, wherein the mobile umbilical cable comprises an optical fibre for transmission of video data.

25. (Currently amended) The safety monitoring system according to ~~any of claims 14 to 24~~, wherein the workplace modules~~s~~ comprises a plurality of video registration devices.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) A selectively configurable workplace module for a safety monitoring system comprising a workplace unit and a plurality of sensors, the workplace unit comprising a plurality of data interfaces for receiving data from the sensors and transmitting data to the safety monitoring system, a plurality of power outlets for providing electrical power to the sensors and an isolation transformer for supplying the power outlets with low voltage electrical power.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)